

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 /018 R

666

DRAFTED BY: EB/OT/STA:MNAYOR:JH

APPROVED BY: EB/OT/STA:BBISHOP

----- 011388

R 241656Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 273893 ACTION ALL OECD CAPITALS  
19 NOVEMBER 75.

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT: WOOTTON LETTER

REF: OECD PARIS 28027; EC BRUSSELS 9946

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AMBASSADOR DENT'S REPLY  
TO WOOTTON LETTER. LETTER DISPATCHED NOVEMBER 11, 1975.  
BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. WOOTTON:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF OCTOBER 28, 1975 DEALING WITH  
THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE WORK ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING.  
IN MANY RESPECTS THE VIEWS WHICH YOU HAVE EXPRESSED ARE  
VERY CLOSE TO THOSE WE HAVE ON THE RECENT PROGRESS IN THE  
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WORKING PARTY. WHILE I BELIEVE THAT SOME USEFUL ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION WAS DEVELOPED AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY OF THE TRADE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING, WE AGREE THAT ADDITIONAL MEASURES WILL PROBABLY BE REQUIRED TO MOVE THE WORK BEYOND THE PRESENT POINT.

WE ARE AWARE OF THE FRENCH INITIATIVE. HOWEVER WE HAVE BELIEVED THAT THE WORK ON THE DRAFT INSTRUMENT WAS, IN

FACT, A NEGOTIATION AND HAVE THUS BEEN SOMEWHAT SURPRISED BY THE LACK OF COMPROMISE OR OFFER TO COMPROMISE ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES BY OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE WORKING PARTY. AT THE LAST MEETING WE MADE EVERY EFFORT TO INDICATE OUR CONCERN OVER THE LEVEL OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED AND, IN PARTICULAR, NOTED THAT WE HAD APPARENTLY REACHED THE STAGE WHERE IT MIGHT PROVE USEFUL TO GO BACK TO THE TRADE COMMITTEE WITH THE PROBLEMS WHICH REMAIN TO SEEK A CLARIFICATION OF THE MANDATE OF THE WORKING PARTY. THE TRADE COMMITTEE AT ITS LAST MEETING HAS INDEED ASKED THE WORKING PARTY FOR A FULL REPORT OF THE STATUS OF THE WORK ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT.

IT HAS LONG BEEN OUR VIEW THAT INITIAL NEGOTIATION OF AN AGREEMENT WOULD AND SHOULD TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE OECD CONTEXT. HOWEVER, YOUR LETTER INDICATED THAT IMPLEMENTATION WOULD ALSO BE ENVISAGED WITHIN THE OECD. WE HAVE ALWAYS CONSIDERED THAT A MORE USEFUL AND PRODUCTIVE AVENUE WOULD BE TO MOVE ANY AGREEMENT INITIALLY ARRIVED AT IN THE OECD TO THE MULTINATIONAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS' FORUM IN GENEVA. THIS WOULD PROVIDE FOR ACCESSION BY THE LARGEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES AND WOULD POSSIBLY PROVIDE FOR SOME MODIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING NATIONS. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE PROPER COURSE.

I HOPE THAT THE ABOVE WILL BE USEFUL TO YOU IN DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE WORKING PARTY. MANY OF THE POINTS WHICH I HAVE RAISED WILL BE ADDRESSED BY OUR DELEGATION AT THE DECEMBER 8 MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY.

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THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR PROMPT RESPONSE TO MY INQUIRIES ON THIS MATTER.

----- BREDERICK B. DENT

END TEXT. KISSINGER UNQUOTE

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** ETRD, SZ, OECD  
**To:** MTN GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
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